United States Patent [19]

Adachi et al.

[54] **CDMA COMMUNICATIONS METHOD AND SYSTEM**

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[57]   **ABSTRACT**

A CDMA communications method capable of multiplex transmission of data over a wide range from a low rate to high rate such as image data without a considerable increase in a circuit scale. A fundamental transmission rate is determined, for example, at 32 kbps, a rate higher than 8 kbps conventionally used. The data whose transmission rate is equal to the fundamental transmission rate is transmitted in frames including no vacant portion. Data whose transmission rate is lower than the fundamental transmission rate (16 kbps, for example) is transmitted in frames including vacant portions. The vacant portions are not transmitted. This makes it possible to receive data through other channels during a time period associated with the vacant portions. Data of a higher transmission rate, 128 kbps, for example, can be multiplexed and transmitted through four channels using different spreading codes.

10 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets